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P 162222Z MAY 94
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130118

BUJUMBURA FOR CHARGE DAR ES SALAAM FOR ARUSHA OBSERVER

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: AMGT RW BY
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE RWANDA/BURUNDI SITREP
CIRCULATED IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR MAY 16. THE SITREP IS
CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL.

2. BEGIN SITREP TEXT:

RWANDA/BURUNDI SITREP MAY 16

SITUATION ON THE GROUND

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EMBASSY FSN REPORTED THAT FIGHTING OVER THE WEEKEND WAS
VERY HEAVY. THE RPF HAS NOT TAKEN THE MILITARY'S COMMAND
AND CONTROL CENTERS ON THE MAIN HILL (KIYOVU) YET.
EMBASSY FSN REPORTS THAT THERE IS NO WATER AND FOOD IS
SCARCE. HE SAID HE'D BEEN TRYING TO CALL SINCE FRIDAY,
THAT ONLY TODAY WERE TELEPHONE LINES RESTORED. (AF/C
TELCON WITH KIGALI)

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 22 JAN 2004 200301564

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THE RPF'S RADIO STATION (RADIO MUHABURA) REPORTED THAT INTERIM GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT SINDIKUBWABO WAS DENIED A VISA TO SOUTH AFRICA TO ATTEND PRESIDENT MANDELA'S INAUGURATION CEREMONY. (FBIS ABIDJAN AF0522)

AID WORKERS IN RWANDA NOW ESTIMATE THAT THE DEATH TOLL HAS REACHED 500,000 WITH MOST BEING VICTIMS OF ATTACKS BY THE RADICAL HUTU DEATH SQUADS RATHER THAN CASUALTIES FROM THE FIGHTING BETWEEN REBEL AND GOVERNMENT FORCES. TRAVELLERS TO EASTERN ZAIRE REPORTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT FORCES WERE RECEIVING NEW ARMS SHIPMENTS IN GISENYI VIA GOMA, ZAIRE. (REUTERS)

EMBASSY LANGUAGE TEACHER TOLD AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA THAT HUTUS BEGAN KILLING TUTSIS IN KIBUYE SHORTLY AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S PLANE WAS DOWNED AND THAT HE BELIEVES GENDARMES FROM THE SOUTH WERE NOT INVOLVED IN THE KILLING OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS. (BUJUMBURA 1650)

DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES

ON MAY 13, IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, THE SECURITY
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COUNCIL DISCUSSED A DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD GIVE UNAMIR A HUMANITARIAN AND PROTECTIVE MANDATE AND EXPAND ITS FORCE TO 5,500. THIS DRAFT IS BEING REVISED FOLLOWING MEETINGS MAY 16 IN NEW YORK WITH SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS. A VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION IS EXPECTED BY TOMORROW, MAY 17 AT THE LATEST. (USUN 2059 AND 5/16 E-MAIL)

THE UN COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS RECEIVED THE 27 AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSES NEEDED TO CONVENE A UNHCR SPECIAL SESSION ON RWANDA. PROJECTED DATES FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION ARE MAY 24-25. (USMISSION GENEVA 4528)

A/S BUSHNELL SPOKE WITH RWANDAN FORCE COMMANDER BIZIMUNGU AND WARNED HIM THAT THE USG WAS HOLDING HIM, THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE'S DIRECTOR OF CABINET BAGASORA AND THE PRESIDENT OF RWANDA PERSONALLY ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE LIVES OF RWANDANS IN REFUGE AT THE MILLES COLLINES HOTEL AND OTHER AREAS THROUGHOUT RWANDA. (STATE 127183)

FAUSTIN TWAGIRAMUNGU, PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE UNDER THE ARUSHA ACCORDS, TOLD REPORTERS IN BRUSSELS THAT HE SUPPORTS THE RPF'S CONTENTION THAT IT WILL ONLY SIGN A

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CEASE FIRE WITH THE RWANDAN ARMY AND NOT WITH THE GOVERNMENT. TWAGIRAMUNGU SAYS THAT THE CURRENT INTERIM GOVERNMENT IS NOT LEGITIMATE BECAUSE THE PRESIDENT DID NOT TAKE AN OATH BEFORE PARLIAMENT AS IS REQUIRED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE 1991 CONSTITUTION. (FBIS BRUSSELS AF1138)

THE RWANDAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, AMBASSADOR UWIMANA, HAS SENT LETTERS TO RWANDANS LIVING HERE, NOTING THAT IF THEY WANTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE RWANDAN ARMY,
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THEY COULD MAKE A DEPOSIT IN A LOCAL AREA BANK ACCOUNT. DAS BUSHNELL WARNED AMBASSADOR UWIMANA ABOUT TAKING SUCH ACTION. WE ARE INVESTIGATING WHETHER OR NOT SUCH ACTION IS ACCEPTABLE UNDER HIS STATUS HERE. (AF/C RECEIPT OF A COPY OF THE LETTER AND A/S BUSHNELL MEETING WITH UWIMANA).)

ALTHOUGH UNAWARE OF ANY OFFICIALLY DECLARED PLANS TO EXPAND THE GHANAIAN PRESENCE IN RWANDA, THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT GHANA WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE MORE TROOPS TO AN ENLARGED UNAMIR WITH A PEACEKEEPING (RATHER THAN A PEACEMAKING) MANDATE. (ACCRA 4025)

THE CANADIANS SAY THAT THEY ARE STUDYING SCENARIOS FOR ASSISTING UNAMIR, INCLUDING POSSIBLY SENDING A 200 MAN COMMUNICATIONS UNIT TO HELP GENERAL DALLAIRE. (OTTAWA 2545)

THE AUSTRALIANS ARE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING A UN REQUEST TO PROVIDE 150 COMMUNICATORS AND A SQUADRON OF FIELD ENGINEERS TO SERVE IN RWANDA. (CANBERRA 2654)

HUMANITARIAN INITIATIVES

ICRC REPORTS THAT THE MASSACRES CONTINUE, WITH FRESH BODIES FOUND DAILY. UNHCR HAS ASKED FOR USG ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING SATELLITE PHOTO COVERAGE OF RUMORED POPULATION MOVEMENTS IN RWANDA AND NORTHWESTERN TANZANIA. (USMISSION GENEVA 4553)

USAID EMERGENCY TEAM VISITED THE NGARA REFUGEE CAMP. THE
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TEAM REPORTS THAT TREMENDOUS PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN
ERECTING CAMP STRUCTURES. FOOD IS BEING DISTRIBUTED AND
HEALTH CLINICS ARE STARTING TO FUNCTION. THE GREATEST
PROBLEM CURRENTLY FACING THE CAMP IS WATER AND
SANITATION. (KAMPALA 3812)

UNHCR APPEALS FOR 56.7 MILLION US DOLLARS TO COVER THE
COSTS OF ITS AID OPERATIONS FOR APPROXIMATELY 860,000
BURUNDIAN/RWANDAN REFUGEES THROUGH MID-JULY. (USMISSION
GENEVA 4498)

BURUNDI:

FORMER PRESIDENT BAGAZA, A TUTSI HARDLINER, ANNOUNCES THE
FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY CALLED PARENA - THE
PARTY FOR NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION. HE ALSO CALLED FOR A
NATIONAL CONFERENCE WHICH CAN BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN HE
IS CHALLENGING THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS THAT PUT THE
POLITICAL PARTY, FRODEBU, IN POWER. (FBIS BRUSSELS AF
2259)

THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE SIGNED A DECREE, EFFECTIVE MAY 9,
1994, THAT REORGANIZES THE BURUNDI ARMY INTO FIVE
MILITARY REGIONS. (USDAO YAOUNDE MESSAGE 161213Z)

END SITREP TEXT.
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